



## Join us in our declaration to the United Nations

# The World Needs a New Global Science Panel for Chemical Pollution

Chemical pollution is an urgent, critical issue for humanity, on equal footing with biodiversity loss and climate change.

According to the Lancet Commission<sup>1</sup>, poor chemicals management kills millions of people every year; far more than malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS-related diseases, and disproportionately affecting poor and vulnerable people. Chemicals bring so many benefits to our lives and we cannot live without them. However, the known adverse effects of pollution are just the tip of the iceberg: the world is sleepwalking into a massive contamination problem with many thousands of unmonitored chemicals being released into water supplies, food chains and the air we breathe.

Poor chemicals management and ineffective waste treatment is taking a terrible toll on human health and the environment. It is a global problem but there is no truly effective independent global scientific advice mechanism into policymaking enabling coordination of efforts to mitigate and eliminate the harmful effects – both known and yet to be discovered – of poorly managed chemicals, waste and pollution.

This must change.

Together, we urge the United Nations in 2022 to take this decisive step, supported by governments, industries, and chemical science organisations around the world, and we agree to the statement:

**The world needs an independent Intergovernmental science-policy Platform for Chemicals and Waste Management**, with similar status to Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (IPBES), to enable science-informed, multidisciplinary, global coordination and action on chemicals pollution, protecting our planet and saving millions of lives.

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<sup>1</sup> [The Lancet Commission on pollution and health](#)